

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Atty. Eisenschenk on 7/16/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

CLAIMS:

Claim 19, line 1, "preparing" has been deleted.

line 2, "at least one" has been deleted and replaced with ----a----.

line 5, "at least one" has been deleted.

line 6, before library, ---metagenomic--- has been inserted.

line 9, step c), "at least one" has been deleted and replaced with ---said---.

After substrate {Ai}, ---selected from the group consisting of phytosterols, 1-phenyl-2-propanol and mandelonitrile--- has been inserted.

line 15, step d), "at least one" has been deleted.

line 19, "at least one" has been deleted.

Claim 25, line 7, step 1), before library, ---metagenomic--- has been inserted.

Claim 32, line 2, before library, ---metagenomic--- has been inserted.

Claim 33, line 2, before library, ---metagenomic--- has been inserted.

Claims 21-24, 26-31 and 36 have been cancelled.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not teach the claimed method using the specific substrates as the only source of the minimum medium for cell growth.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TERESA WESSENDORF whose telephone number is (571)272-0812. The examiner can normally be reached on flexitime.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Low can be reached on 571-272-0951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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